

Mike Flaxman, Chair, Binton Parish Council

Note and questions for A46 meeting – 28th February 2025

Binton Parish Council has been collecting speed and traffic volume data since November 2020. We now have three speed warning signs which collect data on all traffic at strategic points in the village. The council has, since 2020 and at various times, supplied these data to Warwickshire County Council (WCC), Stratford District Council and the Warwickshire police. We have had some support from WCC to calm traffic, providing funding for very visible Village Entry Gates and assisting with the cost of our speed warning signs. Apart from that welcome help, no assertive action has been taken by any statutory body despite the V85 average speeds through the village being up to 41 mph with maximum speeds regularly at 70 mph. We have been lucky to have had no serious accidents which is due to the alertness of the residents to the traffic issues.

In terms of the volume of traffic, the completion of the Shottery Western by-pass S38 link road (Bloor Homes S278 funded scheme) is seen by the parish council as the only hope of reducing the volume of traffic through our village as much of the traffic is expected to leave the A46 at the Wildmoor roundabout to access the Evesham Road B 439 and vice versa. This would regrettably not impact on speeds which we believe can only be improved by regular police prosecutions of offending drivers. They seem to have little interest despite our evidence of regular speed limit infringements.

The S38 link road has been ready for completion for some time but the scheme has not been given road space for the works due to the WCC works in the Birmingham Road and the desire to have only one major scheme in place on the local main roads. Once the works in Birmingham Road are complete, we believe there can be no reason to further delay the completion of the S38 link road. The parish council finds it hard to believe that National Highways and WCC consider that the creation of a roundabout for access to a non-existent industrial estate (construction programme?) can take priority over the completion of the S38 link road which will have significant benefits to Stratford District Council residents.

In addition, village residents are increasingly concerned about the safety of the Billesley junction on the A46 which they have to use to access the A46. A scheme of improvement has been proposed but was considered, by local politicians, to be almost as dangerous as the current position. A sensible scheme for improving that junction with a roundabout or indeed making the A46 dual carriageway would make much sense and reduce the danger of this junction.

Questions

Will National Highways and WCC provide details of their prioritisation and timetable for the completion of the S38 link Road?

What are the plans to improve the Billesley junction on the A46 and what is the timetable?